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ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN, TREASURER,

AND

School Committee

OF THE

TOWN OF THORNTON,

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR, ENDING

MARCH, 1874.

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MANCHESTER, N. H. :

CAMPBELL & HANSCOM, PRINTERS.

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REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN AND TREASURER.

The Selectmen of the Town of Thornton charge themselves as follows:

In Treasury March 1, 1873	\$4,248 25
Received of A. Barnard, interest on school fund	3 00
C. H. Weeks, Collector 1872	592 99
Received on note	36 73
	————— \$4,880 97

Cr.

Paid N. H. Weeks, for goods for Jerusha Hart	4 21
N. H. Weeks, work on highway	1 50
N. Clark, work on highway 1872	1 00
B. M. B. Selingham, for services as Selectman, 1871	2 50
John Barnard on note	20 00
Betsey Paige “	25 00
C. R. Emmons, work on highway and water trough	6 25
Carroll County Bank	2,689 25
A. W. Silver, for goods for M. L. Johnson	8 15
E. G. Guilford, for books for A. T. Payne's children	1 50
Jonathan Gilman, work on highway	4 75

A. A. Straw,	"	"	\$3 00
E. G. Guilford, for services J.			
Benton	.	.	13 25
E. Emmons, nails and spikes	.	.	8 70
Enoch Gilman, bear bounty	.	.	4 00
Liquor Agent, for liquor for paupers	.	.	5 21
E. C. Broad, school-house, tax Dis-			
trict No. 8	.	.	14 50
Wm. Merrill, highway bill	.	.	3 00
Henry Johnson,	"	.	16 00
Jacob Percivill, water trough 1871-2	.	.	3 00
M. J. Hazelton, Auditor	.	.	1 50
George Jenkins,	"	.	1 50
J. F. Morrill,	"	.	1 50
Daniel Lawrence & Son, for liquor	.	.	166 00
H. M. Tobine, part of school-house			
tax No. 1	.	.	2 00
F. Fox, work on highway	.	.	9 00
O. P. Gilman, for plank	.	.	5 61
H. M. Tobin, for board of A. P.			
Knowles' family	.	.	20 00
C. H. Bryant, work on highway	.	.	20 25
Wm. H. Weeks,	"	"	2 25
Daniel E. Brown,	"	"	12 00
Daniel Peaslee,	"	"	3 00
Smith Rowe,	"	"	5 50
Daniel E. Brown,	"	"	4 00
A. A. Durgin	"	"	6 50
Charles Calden	"	"	3 25
N. Clark,	"	"	14 95
J. M. Fogg,	"	and plank	11 23
Hiram Merrill,	"	"	5 25
E. T. Whitney	"	"	14 34
S. J. Conner,	"	" bridge	2 00
J. Emmons, for plank	.	.	9 12
V. G. Durgin, board of Stephen			
Foss, 1871	.	.	11 40
V. G. Durgin, for clothes, 1871	.	.	9 23
John Colton on note	.	.	22 83

Balance on John Johnson note . . .	\$46 65
H. V. Hart, school money, District No. 1, 1871	21 09
S. Corlis, for care of town house . . .	6 00
B. M. B. Selingham, school tax . . .	6 73
Jason Clark, for bolts	6 70
E. Emmons, for J. Benton,	4 00
O. F. James, for board of Selectmen and Auditors, 1871, 1872	29 75
John S. Tufts, for stationery	3 25
Reuben Ham, for support of A. C. Ham	45 00
B. M. B. Selingham, on note	64 73
E. T. Whitney, work on highway . . .	6 75
G. R. Tucker " "	8 00
John Elliott, " "	4 50
Morrill & Silsby, for books	6 10
O. F. James, on note	492 88
Daniel Peaslee, in part for board of J. Hart	10 00
John S. Bagley, work on road	2 00
Arthur Foss, " "	3 00
Arthur Foss, balance for board of Stephen Foss to April 8, 1873	9 00
A. P. Wood, for plank on J. Wood's road	1 20
Wm. T. Snow, for work on highway . . .	14 00
W. W. Harriman " "	4 00
John Colton, on note	63 27
	<hr/> \$4,057 49

April 19, 1873.

Paid Wm. H. Gardner, Town Treasurer for 1873	323 49
Bonds left in Treasurer's hands of 1873	500 00
	<hr/> \$823 49
	<hr/> \$4,880 98

Dr.

SELECTMEN'S ACCOUNT AFTER APRIL 19, 1873.

Received on notes	\$4,587 95
of H. S. Paige, in part for support of Hiram Paige . . .	32 50
Liquor Agent for 1872 . . .	224 06
State Treasurer, bear bounty . . .	20 00
County, for support of county paupers	199 00
State Treasurer, literary fund . . .	83 64
State Treasurer, saving bank tax	39 56
Collector's hands of 1868 . . .	102 80
N. H. State bonds left in Treasurer's hands in 1872 . . .	492 00
on old bridge stuff	31 45
	<hr/> \$5,812 96

Cr.

By cash paid Treasurer	\$5,812 96
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INDEBTEDNESS OF TOWN MARCH 1, 1874.

Due on notes and interest to March 1, 1874	\$32,453 00
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ASSETS.

In Collector's hands for 1866	\$49 00
“ “ “ 1867	100 00
“ “ “ 1868	35 00
“ “ “ 1869	125 00
“ “ “ 1871	250 00
“ “ “ 1872	600 00
“ “ “ 1873	2,900 00
Interest due on Taylor fund	188 58
Due from State bear bounty	12 00
Due from county support of paupers	179 98

In the hands of the Treasurer	\$74 71	
Liquors and barrels, &c.	95 00	
	<hr/>	\$4,609 27
Amount of liabilities		\$32,453 00
Less assets		4,609 27
		<hr/>
		\$27,843 73

STATEMENT OF TAYLOR FUND.

C. F. Bowen, farm	\$205 00	
R. A. Horner	63 17	
John W. Pattee	200 00	
N. H. Weeks	265 00	
Town of Thornton	312 86	
	<hr/>	\$1,046 03

SCHOOL FUND

Town of Thornton	\$1,262 50	
Albert Barnard	50 00	
	<hr/>	\$1,312 50

ORRIN F. JAMES,
EPHRAIM ELLIOTT,
B. M. B. SELINGHAM,
Selectmen of Thorntou.

This certifies that we have critically examined the accounts of the Selectmen and Treasurer of the town of Thornton, for the year ending March 1, 1874, and find the same correctly cast and properly vouched,

MIRON J. HAZELTINE,
CHARLES SHUTE,
MOODY B. CONE,
Auditors.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

Wm. H. Gordon, Treasurer, in account with the town of Thornton for the year 1873.

MONEY PAID OUT.

Robert O. Dickey, boards for cemetery	\$14 00
Daniel Peasley, board of Jerusha Hart	44 00
A. A. Durgin, board of Hiram Paige	26 00
O. A. J. Vaughan printing town reports	30 00
Mrs. E. A. Lougee, balance due on note	223 86
Mrs. H. V. Hart, board of A. P. Knowles' family . .	5 00
Augustus Mrerill, breaking roads	3 00
Hiram Merrill, breaking roads	1 50
John Foster, work on highway	7 32
Horace Tobyne. board of Knowles children	10 50
H. F. Durgin	5 00
I. H. Wyatt, work on road	20 50
Dr. W. A. Smith, doctoring A. C. Ham and A. P. Knowles	80 00
Andrew P. Wood, endorsed on town note	20 00
George Wood, work on highway	7 00
D. L. Guernsey, book for Town Treasurer's office . .	5 00
E. M. Saunders, bear bounty	4 00
Charles P. Sargent, school money	20 00
D. L. Guernsey, books for use of Selectmen	3 65
M. H. Kelley, balance of N. H. Weeks' note	1,062 00
Mrs. Betsey Paige, indorsed on town note	25 00
Joseph H. Moulton, school money, District No. 5 . .	40 00
H. Sawyer, the full amount of James Knight note . .	131 90
Nathaniel Boynton, work on highway in 1872	17 50
B. L. Peaslee, due him on town note	106 26

Arthur Foss, support of S. Foss	\$10 00
Hannah L. Johnson, indorsed on town note :	25 00
A. G. Smith, goods for Martin Dickey family	15 00
F. A. Barnard, school money, District No. 6	40 00
C. P. Sargent, school money, District No. 4	20 00
G. W. Merrill, bridge plank	10 87
Mrs. Betsey Paige, on town note	50 00
Perry P. Elkins, bear bounty	4 00
Webster, Hull & Co., nails for town of Thornton	13 50
C. W. Dearborn, school money, District No. 2	40 00
J. B. Selingham, on town note	1,200 00
C. M. Weeks, county tax	500 61
American Bolt Company	17 94
W. W. Harriman, work on highway	1 00
V. G. Durgin, going to Haverhill with Mrs. Jacobs	20 00
A. W. Silver, gunpowder	68
Onslow P. Gilman, lumber	111 47
Town of Rumney, support of J. W. Tucker family	27 04
Webster, Hull & Co., nails	30 60
W. P. Robinson, goods for A. P. Knowles family	18 30
S. D. Fadden, work on bridge	6 00
Albert Barnard, town note	219 80
Albert Barnard, work on highway	8 75
Robert O. Dickey, school money, District No. 8	42 00
Wm. H. Whitney, lumber for bridge	64 63
Jonathan Dustin, work on bridge	26 00
Samuel Jacobs, board of Lydia Jacobs	15 00
S. M. Barnard, school money, District No. 7	49 00
Mrs. P. Avery, sheep killed by dogs	4 00
W. H. Gordon, work on highway	13 34
B. Steel, work on bridge, and watering trough	24 50
G. W. Merrill, boards for covered bridge	85 50
E. G. Guilford, as superintending school committee	10 00
State Treasurer, State tax	738 00
D. C. James, work on bridges	43 87
George Elliott, lumber for bridge	54 94
James M. Fogg, work on covered bridge	17 00
S. M. Barnard, school money, District No. 7	27 10
C. W. Dearborn, " " 2	30 00

F. A. Barnard, School Committee, Dist. No. 6 . . .	\$68 94
Jonathan P. Mason, " " 9 . . .	42 00
J. W. Pattee, " " 11 . . .	53 10
Daniel Morrill, for sawing boards for bridge, . . .	8 14
J. H. Moulton, school money, district No. 5, . . .	71 16
F. Bartlett, money paid out for Knowles family, . . .	4 95
J. Toortillott, board of A. P. Knowles, . . .	50 00
Esther L. Foss, use of money, . . .	10 45
J. Hart, school money, district No. 12, . . .	52 00
R. O. Dickey, . . .	22 22
G. W. Keniston, amount of town note, . . .	528 33
A. Keniston, endorsed on town note . . .	400 00
H. C. Houston, for timber . . .	1 50
A. Lyford, for water trough . . .	3 00
D. Boynton, work on highway . . .	14 76
W. T. Snow, School money District No. 3, . . .	53 13
Ephraim Elliott, work on Sandwich road . . .	6 00
G. Elliott, work on Sandwich road . . .	12 50
E. C. Broad, work on Sandwich road . . .	4 50
C. Elliott, " " " " . . .	6 00
S. B. Elliott, " " " " . . .	4 50
Joseph Cook, Damage on sleigh . . .	2 00
Mehitabel Foss, endorsed on town note . . .	14 00
J. Tourtillott, endorsed on town note . . .	7 25
N. S. Woodbury, labor and plank on highway . . .	9 65
J. M. Fogg, work on highway . . .	4 34
J. P. Mason, school money . . .	28 62
E. Emmons, for goods for A. Paine . . .	3 50
C. R. Emmons, for water trough . . .	3 00
Jonathan B. Sanborn, school money . . .	135 07
M. B. Cone, for work on bridge . . .	20 00
M. B. Cone, for breaking roads . . .	5 50
C. H. Weeks, for goods delivered to A. Payne . . .	13 48
C. H. Weeks, for boards hauled from G. Merrill's mill . . .	14 25
R. Ham, for work on highway . . .	25 00
H. W. Blair, for counsel . . .	9 00
A. A. Stone, for work on highway . . .	1 17
W. T. Snow, " " . . .	12 00
M. Foss, for work on bridge and boarding help . . .	15 00

E. Bagley, for work on bridge	\$10 00
E. T. Whitney, for work on highway	13 56
C. Hodgson, for work on highway	7 12
A. A. Durgin, for boarding H. Paige	63 56
D. Peaslee, for work on highway	19 50
D. F. Peaslee, " "	15 00
J. Hart, " "	2 24
O. Weeks, " "	7 00
B. F. Merrill, " "	9 00
J. O. Bagley, work on bridge	7 00
J. Jackman, for goods delivered to Mrs. Jacobs	4 53
M. C. D. Foss, for timber and plank	58 86
J. Colby, for water trough	3 00
G. Elliott, for plank	3 88
Maria Wallace, for support of S. Foss	5 30
D. Foss, for breaking road	10 50
A. Foss, for board of S. Foss	40 05
J. Brown, for furnishing boat for town	5 00
J. Gilman, for work on highway	4 12
S. Sanborn, for work on bridge	15 00
M. B. Cone, for work on highway	3 78
Carroll County Bank, town note	2,500 00
W. P. Robinson, for nails	1 12
E. Packard, for breaking	5 00
H. F. Duagin, for breaking roads	5 25
E. Elliott, work on Mad river bridge	10 00
E. C. Broad, breaking roads	4 00
B. M. B. Selingham, school money	6 76
C. W. Dearborn, "	41 12
B. M. B. Selingham, money paid to town	10 25
G. Elkins, for timber and work on highway	9 75
J. R. Foss, for iron work on covered bridge	6 20
C. P. Sargent, school money	40 00
O. L. Durgin, for work on covered bridge	6 00
E. G. Guilford, for doctoring J. Benton	16 50
E. G. Guilford, for doctoring A. P. Payne	18 50
E. G. Guilford, for Superintending School Committee	30 00
J. Burrows, for counsel	53 58
V. G. Durgin, for work on bridge	4 37

J. Percivail, for water trough	\$1 50
L. Kendrick, for work on highway	10 05
H. S. Petingill, for soldier's bounty	106 13
E. P. Elkins, bear bounty	4 00
W. C. Merrill, liquor furnished A. P. Knowles	5 92
O. F. James, for moving A. P. Knowles to County Farm	4 00
Sarah Burley, for board of help on covered bridge	8 00
J. T. Wood, for work on covered bridge	8 00
W. H. Gordon, for board of Selectmen	1 50
A. Calden, on note	15 32
W. H. Gordon, service of town Treasurer	40 00
O. F. James, work on roads and bridges	97 75
O. F. James, for money paid out while doing town busi- ness and service as Selectman and Overseer of Poor	196 43
E. Elliott, services as Selectman and Overseer of Poor	51 00
B. M. B. Selingham, services as Selectman and Overseer of Poor	64 50
	<hr/>
	\$10,970 00
Due on order not paid March 1, 1874	76 36
	<hr/>
	\$11,046 36

Money received by Wm. H. Gordon, Town Treasurer.

Received of the Selectmen,	\$5,812 96
Collector's list, 1867	65 00
" " 1869	17 43
" " 1870	215 34
" " 1871	582 35
" " 1872	979 65
" " 1873	3,129 41
Town Treasurer 1872	323 49
	<hr/>
	\$11,125 63

WILLIAM H. GORDON,
Town Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

To the honorable Board of Selectmen of the town of Thornton:

GENTLEMEN—The time having arrived at which the law of our State requires me to submit my annual report, together with such recommendations and remarks as may seem advisable, would most respectfully submit the following report.

DISTRICT No. 1.

This school was taught by Mr. John A. Sanborn. The length of the school was twenty weeks, with two weeks vacation.

Owing to the length of the school, and the inclemency of the weather, the children became tired, and from a want of punctuality of attendance did not make that marked improvement which they otherwise might have done. The teacher has labored under the disadvantage of a want of co-operation on the part of some of the parents, but has discharged his duties to the satisfaction of your committee.

At the final examination the scholars that were present showed an improvement surpassing any school in town, proving what might have been accomplished by all, provided they had been punctual in their attendance.

DISTRICT No. 2.

The summer and winter terms were both taught by good teachers; improvement fair. Both teachers seemed to have both natural and acquired abilities, requisite to success in the school room.

DISTRICT No 3.

One term ; taught by Mrs Bagley, an experienced teacher, who labored hard for the benefit of the school. Your committee did not receive notice of its close until too late to visit it ; but, hearing no unfavorable reports, judges that it was a success. The school house is open, cold, and uncomely, and is a monument of disgrace to the district.

DISTRICT No. 4.

Both terms taught by Mrs. Weeks, an experienced teacher. Under her instruction this school was well managed, and good improvement was the result.

DISTRICT No. 5.

Both terms taught by Normal School graduates, furnished with diplomas, and certificates enough to load down a mule team, (given by State authority.)

Miss A. L. Blaisdell, teacher of the winter term, failed of success, for want of experience, knowledge of human nature, a just discrimination of the wants of her pupils, and a right appreciation of what was required of her in the school room. Finding that we were spending our money to no purpose, the school was suspended.

In the opinion of your committee the summer term was equally as successful ; but, as there was no formal complaint entered, it was suffered to go on. Summer term taught by Miss Emma Merrill.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Both terms taught by Miss Kinsman. This was her first experience in teaching, and the ease with which this school was managed and the tact with which instruction was imparted, would insure success in almost any school and under almost any circumstances.

DISTRICT No. 7.

One term, taught by Miss Drew. It was feared by your committee at the first of the school, that the teacher's energy was not quite equivalent to the labor required in this school. I deemed it necessary to make a visit at the middle of the term and give the

scholars some wholesome advice on deportment. At the close of the term the school passed a very good examination, and had made fair improvement.

DISTRICT No. 8.

* Summer term taught by Miss Leavitt. This was her first school, and she seemed to lack that energy which renders itself contagious, and diffuses itself into every fibre and tissue of the school. No marked improvement was made. Winter term taught by Mr. Mann; he is a teacher of experience, was untiring in his exertions, manifesting an energy and perseverance much beyond his physical strength. The scholars manifested a good degree of general intelligence, showing that their instructions have not been of a superficial character.

DISTRICT No. 9.

One term, taught by Miss Norris. This was her first effort in teaching. She was faithful in the discharge of her duties, and strict in her management. Improvement was fair. Miss Norris is a worthy young lady, a daughter of a neighboring citizen, and has that interest and love for the calling which I predict will render her eminently successful as a teacher.

DISTRICT No. 11.

One term, taught by Mrs. Weeks. Here we find Mrs. Weeks, again as interested as ever. The school was orderly, and made good improvement.

DISTRICT No. 12.

One term, taught by Mrs. Elliott, an experienced teacher. The school was small, but appeared well and made fair improvement.

GENERAL REMARKS.

Our district schools are the children of the town, and we presume on a parent's affection in recalling attention to them. Yet it must be confessed that, on the part of our citizens, there is a want of acquaintance with their plans and modes of operation much to be deplored.

The schools are too seldom visited, and the personal acquaintance of the teacher rarely sought, except by some parent who has a grievance to redress. This ought not to be so.

If parents would visit schools in which they are immediately concerned, the defects in our school rooms, the inconvenience arising from a want of books, the irregularities of attendance and other serious evils might be obviated. "Seeing is believing," and should the parents witness these evils, they would at once apply the remedy. Besides, if parents pay frequent visits to the school room and evince a marked interest in the school, that interest is sure to be imparted to the scholars, and to the teacher, even. The tenants of the school room should have our sympathies in their labors, and when they have them to such an extent as to secure the watchful, assiduous care and attention of parents, the daily attendance on the part of the pupils will cease to be a task; more than this, it will be a pleasure.

SCHOOL HOUSES.

It is surprising what a difference exists in the State as to the finish of our public buildings.

Most of them are only used a few days or weeks at the most, during the year.

Even our jails and prisons are fitted up with the most modern improvements, yet they are for the punishment of the lowest and vilest of humanity. While our school houses for the accommodation of the bodies of our loved and tender offspring, in which are nurtured and formed their immortal minds, may be built in any style of architecture, fitted up in any style or finish, and arranged in any way or manner, provided they answer the purpose. This should not be so. The school house should receive our greatest attention. In districts number 2, 3, 4 and 5 the school houses should be repaired, or give place to new ones without delay.

We hope the failure to attend to this matter in the past will not be repeated the coming year.

Your committee has heard no trouble from district feuds the past year. I hope and trust they are forever allayed.

Our schools are well supplied with text books, and I can see no hindrance to rapid improvement in our schools, provided you em

ploy good teachers and continue the classification. I would here suggest that the town would direct my successor to provide a good dictionary for every school. I still urge the necessity of an increased appropriation of school money for the benefit of our schools.

In submitting my labors to you, gentlemen, I admit that your committee has not been perfect in all points; but I have tried to discharge my duties for the best interest of all concerned.

Occasional failures of success in teaching and discipline in our schools, are not unfrequent in this imperfect world. We desire to commit ourselves, our schools, and all our interests to Him who judges righteously. Every earthly facility may be afforded, but there can be no true and lasting success when the blessing of our Heavenly Father is withheld.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. G. GUILFORD,
School Committee.

Thornton, March 10, 1874.

